

URBAN DISTRICT OF DENTON.

REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF DENTON

1918

BY

WM. STEWART, M.D.

DENTON :

ANNUAL REPORT.

STATISTICAL.

The following are the General Statistics for the year 1918 :—

Area of district in Acres	2593
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Estimated population at the middle of 1918 :

Males	8468	} 17649
Females	9181	

(No allowance for deaths of persons in the Army has been made in arriving at the above figures.)

The following two estimates of the population have been supplied by the Registrar-General :

Birth-rate (and marriage-rate) population	...	17328
Death-rate population	...	15465

Persons married per thousand of the population (at appointed places in the district)	...	5.0
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Births in the district :

Males	...	133 (6 illegitimate)	...	} 251
Females	...	118 (4 illegitimate)	...	

Annual birth-rate per thousand of the population	...	14.4
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Deaths :

Males	125	} 254
Females	129	

Death-rate :

Males	8.08	} 16.4
Females	8.34	

Deaths under one year old per thousand births	...	67
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Death-rate from the principal epidemic diseases	...	0.96
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Mean death-rate 1908-1917	...	14.0
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Mean birth-rate 1908-1917	...	21.3
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Vital Statistics.

The number of births registered during the year was 251 (ten illegitimate children—six boys and four girls).

The males born (135) exceed the females born (116) by nineteen.

The birth-rate was 14·4 per 1000 of the estimated population (17,328) as furnished by the Registrar-General for the estimation of the birth-rate (males 7·7, females 6·6).

The following table gives the number of births registered, with the birth-rate for the ten years—1908-1917, with averages for the years stated :—

Year.	No. of Births.	Birth-rate.
1908	392	24·5
1909	391	24·2
1910	439	26·9
1911	385	22·7
1912	364	21·3
1913	359	20·8
1914	366	21·1
1915	328	18·7
1916	295	16·2
1917	290	16·5
Average for 10 yrs. 1908-1917	<hr/> 360	<hr/> 21·3

The birth-rate is the lowest on record. It is 2·1 below the previous year, and is 6·9 below the ten years average ; also 3·3 below that for England and Wales.

Death Rate.

The deaths relate exclusively to the civilian population.

The death-rate population excludes all non-civilian males, whether serving at home or abroad. These estimates are based mainly upon the rationing returns, kindly placed

at the Registrar-General's disposal by the Ministry of Food. Whereas, on the other hand, the birth-rate (and marriage-rate) population is intended to include all the elements of the population contributing to the birth and marriage rates.

The civilian population, as estimated by the Registrar-General, was 15,465.

The total number of deaths registered was 254.

The deaths of females (129) exceed those of males (125) by four.

The death-rate from all causes was 16·4 (males 8·0, females 8·3).

The following table gives the number of deaths belonging to the district, together with the death-rates for the ten years—1908-1917, with averages for the years stated :—

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Death-rate.
1908	215	13·4
1909	244	15·1
1910	195	11·9
1911	256	15·1
1912	248	14·5
1913	252	14·65
1914	225	12·97
1915	255	14·88
1916	244	14·58
1917	216	13·70
Average for 10 yrs.	—	—
1908-1917.	235	14·07

The death-rate is the highest recorded since 1906, when it was 16·5.

It is 2·7 above that for the previous year, and 2·4 above the ten years' average, but it is 1·2 below that for England and Wales (17·6).

The high death-rate during the year under record may be attributed principally to the high mortality during the Influenza Epidemic.

Transferable Deaths.

Six deaths of non-residents registered in the district have been transferred away, and 36 deaths of residents not registered in the district have been transferred to the district.

The ages at the time of death were as follows :—

All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 and up-wards.
254	17	9	16	19	20	38	69	66

The chief causes of death during 1918, were as follows : Measles 1, Whooping Cough 8, Diphtheria and Croup 4, Influenza 38, Erysipelas 1, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 17, Tuberculous Meningitis 1, other Tuberculous diseases 3, Cancer, malignant disease 5, Rheumatic Fever 3, Meningitis 1, Organic Heart Disease 24, Bronchitis 27, Pneumonia (all forms) 28, other respiratory diseases 5, Appendicitis and Typhlitis 1, Cirrhosis of Liver 1, Nephritis and Bright's Disease 4, Puerperal Fever 1, Parturition apart from Puerperal Fever 1, Congenital Debility, &c., 6. Violence apart from suicide 5, other defined diseases 68, causes ill-defined or unknown 1.

Infant Mortality.

There were 17 deaths of infants under one year of age registered during the year (one illegitimate) measured by the proportion of deaths to the registered births, was equal to 67 per 1000 births.

The following table gives the number of infant deaths and infant death rates for the ten years—1908-1917, with the years stated :—

Year.	No. of Infant Deaths.	Infant Death-rate.
1908	41	104
1909	51	130
1910	43	97
1911	57	148
1912	54	148
1913	52	144
1914	44	120
1915	48	146
1916	32	108
1917	20	68
Average for 10 yrs. 1908-1917.	— 44	— 121

The death-rate is therefore one per 1000 births below that for the previous year, 54 below the 10 years' average, and is 30 below that for England and Wales.

The cause of deaths under one year of age was as follows :—

Broncho-Pneumonia 3, Asthenia 1, Marasmus 3, Suffocation in bed 1, Congenital Syphilis 1, Gastritis 1, Whooping Cough 2, Premature Birth 2, Tabes Mesenterica 1, Spina Bifida 1, Pulmonary Congestion 1.

The following table gives the ages in weeks and months of infants who die under one year of age :—

Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months.	9 Months and under 12 Months.	Total under 1 Year.
2	2	1	..	5	3	5	3	1	17

Maternity and Child Welfare.

A whole-time H.V. was appointed on the 23rd October, 1916.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre was opened in August, 1917. Particulars of these have been stated in my Annual Report for 1917. The Medical Officer of Health for the district was appointed Medical Officer to the Centre.

Population (1) census 1911	16,877
(2) Estimated 1918	17,759
Population estimated by Registrar-General	
for Birth-rate.....	17,328
Population estimated by Registrar-General	
for Death-rate	15,465
Births Registered (1) Legitimate	241
„ (2) Illegitimate	10
„ (3) Total	251
Births Notified (1) Live Births	251
„ (2) Still-births	10
„ (3) Total	261
„ (1) By Midwives	158
„ (2) By Doctors	103
Infant Deaths—	
Number (1) Legitimate	16
„ (2) Illegitimate	1
„ (3) Total.....	17
Rate per 1000 Births (1) Legitimate	66
„ „ (2) Illegitimate	100
(3) Total	67

Midwives—

Number Practising in the District—

(1) Trained 4. (2) Untrained 4.

One of the untrained has temporarily ceased to practice, and in another case her name was compulsorily removed from the Register in November, 1918.

On November 21st, 1918, Dr. Cameron paid a visit to the Centre to enquire into the Maternity and Child Welfare Work of the district. The Local Government Board having considered her report, made certain suggestions :—

1. The provision of regular medical attendance at the Centre.

2. The provision of ante-natal care at the Centre, and the extension of home-visiting of expectant mothers, and the investigation of cases of still-birth and premature death.

3. In view of the mortality and permanent injury to health caused by Measles, the Board considered it very desirable that arrangements should be made for the home-nursing of cases of Measles, where found necessary ; also in cases of Whooping Cough, Epidemic Diarrhœa, Poliomyelitis, Puerperal Fever and Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

The Board's grant being available in respect of the nursing of these cases.

Through the provision of the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, most of the suggestions have had due consideration of my Council, but owing to want of time, through other work entailed as a consequence of the war, many of these suggestions have been temporarily delayed.

A Statutory Committee, under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, has been appointed, composed as follows : Six members of the Council, and three ladies, who are not members of the Council. My Council have formulated their scheme, which has been submitted to and approved by the L.G.B.

In addition to the work contemplated in the Board's Circular of the 29th July, 1915, in regard to the Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915, the grant is now available for the following additional services :—

Hospital Treatment for Children up to five years of age.

Lying-in Homes.

Home-helps.

The provision of food for expectant and nursing mothers, and for children up to five years of age.

Crèches and Day Nurseries.

Convalescent homes.

Homes for the children of widowed and deserted mothers, and for illegitimate children.

Experimental work for the health of expectant and nursing mothers of infants and children under five years of age.

In certain other respects the scope of the grant has been enlarged.

I should like to draw your attention to the rapidly declining birth-rate, and the necessity for using all means at your disposal to safeguard the life and health of each child born.

The birth-rate for the district was 14·4, the lowest on record. It is 2·1 below the rate for the previous year, and is 6·9 below the average for the preceding ten years. On the other hand, the death-rate for children under one year was 67 per 1000 births, which is one below the previous year, and 54 below the average for the preceding ten years. In the ten years—1906-1915, the average number of deaths of children under one year of age was 47, in 1916, 1917, and 1918 it was 32, 20 and 17 respectively.

As the majority of these deaths are preventable, there is hope that these figures may be still further reduced.

Still-Births.

Under the Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915, any live or still-birth occurring after the 28th week of pregnancy is required to be notified.

During the year ten still-births were notified, which gives a percentage for the district of 3·8 still-births in each 100 children born.

Measles.

Out of a total of 133 cases notified, 120 were visited by the Health Visitor.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—One case was notified and was visited by the H.V. The case was removed to the Royal Eye Hospital, Manchester.

Voluntary workers have done valuable service in making the Centre as bright and attractive as possible, in providing light refreshments for mothers who bring their children, in general offering encouragement and advice to the mothers, and in giving material assistance where the necessity arises.

The following is a report of the Health Visitor for 1918 :

Number of visits paid to children (first)...	...	224
" " (subsequent)...		1637
		<hr/>
Total	...	1861
Number of visits paid to children over one		
year of age	...	184
Total number of attendances for weighing	...	903
Number of visits paid to expectant mothers—		
(first)	...	15
(subsequent)	...	12
		<hr/>
Total	...	27
Number of cases of Measles visited	...	120
Number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum		
visited	...	1

Numerous cases have been given assistance in obtaining milk—some free—some by part payment (or where preferred, Glaxo has taken the place of milk).

Many mothers have been allowed extra nourishment in the way of foods, such as Bovril or Glaxo, both previous to and after the birth of the child, and in such cases, where found necessary, baby clothes have been lent.

Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil and Virol have been supplied (in many cases free) to children suffering from rickets and malnutrition.

M. PRUSMAN.

July 29th, 1919.

Infectious Diseases.

The diseases included in the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, are as follows :—Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Typhus Fever, Enteric or Typhoid Fever, Relapsing Fever, Continued Fever, Puerperal Fever, Erysipelas and Asiatic Cholera.

The following cases were notified in 1918 and in the ten previous years, and the year 1918, is compared with the average of the previous ten years :—

Disease.	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	Avge. for 10 years	1918
Small-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever..	87	92	24	47	37	57	192	60	37	15	64·8	25
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	11	7	6	8	17	26	19	7	6	12	11·9	11
Typhus Fever.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever.	11	17	6	8	5	6	1	7	3	...	6·4	3
Puerperal Fvr.	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	0·4	...
Erysipelas.....	5	12	7	11	7	10	8	13	8	5	8·6	8
Contind. Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	0·2	...
Totals	114	128	44	76	67	99	222	87	54	32	92·3	47

The number of cases notified in 1918 is therefore 15 more than in the preceding year, but is 47 less than the 10 years' average.

The death-rate per 1000 of the estimated civilian population from the principal zymotics :—Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup), Whooping Cough, Fever (comprising Enteric, Typhus and Continued Fever), and Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under two years of age) is shown in the following table compared with the average for the preceding ten years :—

											Avge. for 10	
1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	yrs.	1918
1.12	1.92	0.67	1.53	0.58	0.87	1.32	1.51	0.95	0.44	1.09		0.96

The death-rate per 1000 of the population was 0.52 above that for 1917, but it is 0.13 below the average for the ten years—1908-1917.

Smallpox.

No case of Smallpox has been notified in the district since 1904.

Scarlet Fever.

The following figures show the number of cases notified during :—

1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
134	199	87	92	24	47	37	57	192	60	37	15	25

The following table shows the number notified each month throughout the year :—

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1	2	1	1	2	4	6	0	1	3	3	1

The cases notified are ten more than in the previous year, but are 37 less than the average for the ten previous years.

The number of cases notified in each age group were :—Between 1-5, five ; 5-15, eighteen ; 15-25, one ; 25-45, one.

There were no deaths.

The death-rate from Scarlet Fever for England and Wales was 0·03.

The Ward distribution of the cases was as follows :
North Ward 8, East Ward 2, West Ward 15. One case was removed to hospital. All others were treated at home on the lines advocated by Dr. Robert Milne. (Eucalyptus Oil and Carbolic Oil are supplied free by the Council.)

At the same time all reasonable precautions are taken to isolate the cases as far as possible in their own homes, and on recovery the house is disinfected.

The home method of treatment of Scarlet Fever has now been employed in the district for the past four and a half years, and in my opinion has been satisfactory.

Only for some special reason is a case removed to hospital, e.g., want of convenience for isolation, overcrowding, or where the mother is expecting, etc.

Between June 8th and June 24th four cases of Scarlet Fever were notified. All were scholars from one classroom at the Russell Scott Memorial School (Standard IV. A. and B.). Being unable to trace the source of the infection, and, as the classroom in question was used as a general assembly room for all the children in the upper department, I deemed it advisable to close the upper department for three days for thorough disinfection and cleansing. At the same time I closed the Infant Department for one day for a similar purpose, as children coming from the infected houses had been attending the Infant School. Further, all likely contacts were excluded. The outbreak was checked.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

The following figures show the number of cases notified during 1908 and in the 10 preceding years :

1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
11	7	6	8	17	26	13	7	6	12	11

The number is one below the previous year and 0·9 below the average of the preceding ten years.

With regard to age, nine cases were between the ages 2-5, and two cases between 5-15.

There were four deaths, which was equal to a death-rate of 0·25, compared with a death-rate of 0·14 for England and Wales.

The cases were distributed throughout the year :
February 1, March 2, April 1, May 2, June 1, July 2,
September 1, November 1.

The Ward distribution was as follows :
North Ward 2, East Ward 4, West Ward 5.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is supplied free in all cases. Fourteen vials, equalling 2000 units each, were used during the year.

The Council provide for free bacteriological examination of throat swabs. Two swabs were examined, one positive and one negative.

Three cases were removed to hospital—all died in hospital.

Enteric Fever.

Three cases were notified during the year.

The following figures show the number of cases notified in the previous 10 years :

1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
11	17	6	8	5	6	1	7	3	0

There were no deaths.

The death-rate for England and Wales was 0·03.

The Council provide for free examination of blood specimens. No specimen was submitted.

Erysipelas.

The following figures show the numbers notified in 1918 and the preceding 10 years :

1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
5	12	7	11	7	10	8	13	8	5	8

The number was three more than in the preceding year, but 0·6 less than the average for the previous ten years.

With regard to age, one was between the ages 15-25, two between 25-45, four between 45-65, and one over 65.

The Ward distribution was :

North Ward 3, East Ward 2, West Ward 3.

The cases were distributed throughout the year :

January 2, February 1, March 2, October 1, December 2.

There was one death.

Measles and German Measles.

Measles was prevalent throughout the year, especially during the first six months.

There were 133 cases notified, comprising 115 notified by medical practitioners, and 18 notified by other persons.

The following figures will show the number notified during each month of the year :

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jne.	Jly.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
43	18	7	11	16	8	5	4	6	7	8	0

which gives an attack rate of 7·6 per 1000 of the estimated population (17328) compared with an attack rate of 34·1 per 1000 in the preceding year.

There was one death from measles, giving a death-rate of 0·06 as against 0·25 in the previous year.

The death-rate for England and Wales was 0·28.

The following figures show the number of deaths during the 10 years 1908-1917 :

1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
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0	15	0	5	5	4	2	17	2	4
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One hundred and twenty of the cases notified were visited by the Health Visitor. She found time to do this work in addition to her work in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare. In cases where the person affected was of school age the head teacher was informed and the necessary steps for exclusion arranged.

No school or department of a school was closed on account of measles during the year.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under Two Years).

There were no deaths registered from the above cause during the year.

The death-rate for England and Wales was equal to 10.99 per thousand births.

In July, 1918, the Local Government Board sent a reminder to the Council of the special danger to infant life and health likely to arrive during the hot weather from attack of epidemic diarrhœa. The Board feared that the dangers might be accentuated during the year in question by the diminution of natural feeding due to the largely increased employment of married women.

The Board urged that the following steps should be taken to meet the danger :

1. To arrange for the H.V. to give special attention to the visitation of homes of infants whose mothers go out to work, etc.

2. To arrange for the nursing of cases of epidemic diarrhœa which the M.O.H. considers on the report of the H.V. to be in need of nursing.

3. To make some provision, if possible, for the hospital treatment of serious cases.

4. That special attention be given to scavenging during July, August and September.

Whooping Cough.

This disease not being notifiable no definite estimate can be formed of the number of children who have had the disease, but from the weekly returns of sickness in schools, as supplied by the school medical officer, 48 cases were stated in these lists.

There were eight deaths, which represents a death-rate of 0·51 per 1000 of the estimated civilian population.

The death-rate of England and Wales was 0·29.

Chickenpox and Mumps.

Isolated cases of both diseases occurred throughout the year. There were no deaths.

Puerperal Fever.

There was one death during the year, the case was not notified.

The name of one untrained midwife was compulsorily removed from the register. On the whole the standard of efficiency among midwives in the district is satisfactory.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case was notified. The case was sent to the Royal Eye Hospital, Manchester. A midwife was in attendance at the birth in the capacity of nurse.

Tuberculosis.

During the year 14 cases were notified in respect to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, compared with 32 in the preceding year, 44 in 1916, 31 in 1915, 21 in 1914, and 33 in 1913.

The following table shows the incidence of the disease in respect of age and sex :

	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	Totals
Males	1	3	4	2	::	9
Females	1	2	2	1	::	5
Totals ... ..	...	5	6	3	—	14

The distribution of the cases was as follows :

North Ward 3, East Ward 5, West Ward 6.

There were 17 deaths, three between the ages 15-25, eleven between 25-45, and three between 45-65.

Ten notifications were received in respect to tuberculosis other than the lungs, compared with twenty-one in 1917, nineteen in 1916, sixteen in 1915, and eleven in 1914.

The following table shows the incidence in respect of age and sex :

	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	Totals
Males	2	1	1	1	4
Females	1	1	3	1	6
Totals	3	2	4	1	10

Location of disease :—Glands of neck 6, meninges 1, peritoneum 1, larynx 1, joint 1.

The distribution of the cases was as follows :

North Ward 5, East Ward 2, West Ward 3.

There were four deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

A weekly return of all cases notified is forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health.

A nurse then visits the home of each patient notified. A full record of environmental conditions is sent to me, and any insanitary or other matters prejudicial to the health of the patient or other occupant has had the immediate attention of the Health Department. Rooms are disinfected when thought necessary, and in all cases after death or removal of a patient the house is thoroughly disinfected before a fresh tenant is allowed to occupy it.

During the year fifteen cases were admitted into sanatoria under the provisions of the National Insurance Act, and twenty-three cases were discharged after having received a period of institutional treatment.

A report by the Medical Officer of the Institution on the condition of the patient on discharge is furnished to me through the Central Tuberculosis Officer. Summarised, these reports are as follows :

Improved 14, quiescent 4, in statu quo 2, worse 1, deaths 2.

The Council provide for free examination of sputum in all cases. Eighteen specimens were submitted to Professor Delèpine for examination : three positive and fifteen negative.

Disinfectants and Izal handkerchiefs are supplied free.

Printed instructions to persons suffering from consumption are left with each patient. Admonitory cards in reference to spitting, etc., are suspended in factories, workshops, and public institutions.

During the year the Board issued some fresh Orders and Circulars in relation to tuberculosis (principally limited to the duration of the present war), viz.:—The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1917, dated 31st December, 1917. The object of this Order was to assist the Ministry of National Service, who had taken over the duties of the Army Council, with respect to enlistment into the Army. The require-

ments of this Order was :—For the Medical Officer of Health from and after the date of the Order to send to the Chief Commissioner of Medical Services the name and other specified particulars of every male person between the ages of sixteen and forty-five years, instead of to the Army Council as was required by “The Regulations of 1916.”

The Public Health (Tuberculosis Regulations), 1918, dated 4th July, 1918. The Order was issued to meet the alterations in the limits of age of men liable to military service. The requirements of this Order was:—For the Medical Officer of Health to send forthwith to the Chief Commissioner of Medical Services a list of the names and other specified particulars of all male persons entered in the Tuberculosis Register who were between the ages of forty-five and forty-nine years on the First day of January, 1916, and afterwards, weekly, the names and other specified particulars of every male person between the ages of sixteen and fifty-three years hereafter entered in the said register.

The Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations No. 2) 1918, dated 6th September, 1918. This Order provides for the notification of any case of tuberculosis discovered at Medical Examinations undertaken by the Medical Boards under the control of the Ministry of National Service to the Medical Officer of Health of the Sanitary District in which the man resides.

Venereal Diseases.

In March, 1918, a circular-letter was forwarded to every Medical Practitioner in the Administrative County of Lancaster giving particulars of the County Council's Scheme for the Prevention and Treatment of Venereal Diseases.

The scheme includes the following arrangements :

(1) for enabling any medical practitioner practising in the area of the County Council to obtain, at the cost of the County Council, a scientific report on any material which the medical practitioner may submit from a patient suspected to be suffering from venereal disease ;

(2) for the treatment, etc., in hospitals or other institutions of persons suffering from venereal disease ; and

(3) for supplying medical practitioners with salvarsan, or its approved substitutes, for the treatment and prevention of venereal diseases.

The facilities mentioned, both for diagnosis and treatment, are available to registered medical practitioners without charge to them or to their patients.

(1) Provision of Laboratory Facilities for Diagnosis and Guidance in Treatment.

Arrangements have been made by which any medical practitioner will be supplied gratuitously with the necessary outfit for collecting material for examination from persons suspected to be suffering from venereal disease, and a scientific report furnished.

The Laboratories available : Manchester—The University of Manchester. Public Health Laboratory, York Place (Prof. Delépine), and one each in Liverpool and Burnley.

(2) Treatment Centres or Clinics. The County Council have made arrangements with a number of Institutions, the following are convenient centres for this district:

Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary & Children's Hospital.

Males—Monday and Thursday, 3-5 p.m.

Females—Monday and Thursday, 3-5 p.m.

Manchester Royal Infirmary. Diseases of Skin.

Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m.

Diseases of Genito-Urinary Organs.

Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday, 6 to 8 p.m.

Manchester and Salford Lock Hospital. Daily, 5 to 7 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday excepted.

Manchester & Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases, Quay St.

(Syphilis only treated at this hospital.)

Daily, Sunday excepted. Males, 9-10 a.m.

Females, 9-11 a.m.

Children, 9-11 a.m.

Manchester, Ancoats Hospital.

Males—Wednesday, 5-30 to 7 p.m.

Females—Wednesday, 11-30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Each institution is available for the free treatment of all comers without distinction as to means, or as to place of residence. The strictest confidence is assured to all who seek advice. Patients attending for treatment of venereal diseases will not be distinguished in any way from patients attending for treatment of other diseases.

(3). Supply of Salvarsan or its approved substitutes.

The County Council will supply to medical practitioners, free of charge, Salvarsan or its approved substitutes for the purpose of administration to patients, but the L.G.B. have intimated that these drugs shall only be supplied to medical practitioners who can produce satisfactory evidence of training or experience in their administration.

. Printed Forms of Instructions to Patients and the Public generally.

The County Council supply these free on application.

During the year in question I have had no statement from any of the before-mentioned centres to show the services rendered.

Influenza.

The epidemic of influenza in June and July was followed after a short interval by a second wave of prevalence in October, November and December.

In view of the prevalence of Influenza throughout the country the Board's Medical Officer prepared "A Memorandum on Epidemic Catarrhs and Influenza." In this is set out the high death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs, of which Epidemic Catarrhs and Influenza are but the forerunners. The Board suggest that the Medical Officer of Health of each district should consider whether it would not be desirable for him to prepare for use in the district some precautionary instructions, such instructions might be based on the Memorandum of their Medical Officer.

Printed Instructions (large poster size) were prepared and exhibited throughout the district in shops and other public places.

On the 18th November, 1918, the Board issued a General Order "The Public Health (Influenza) Regulations, 1918."

These Regulations became operative on the 25th day of November, 1918, and includes the following Regulations in respect to every place of public entertainment, that is to say :

(1) Where the public are admitted to a place of public entertainment the entertainment there shall not be carried on for more than three hours consecutively.

(2) There shall be an interval of not less than thirty minutes between any two entertainments at the place of public entertainment to which the public are admitted.

(3) During the interval referred to in the last preceding paragraph, the place of public entertainment shall be effectually and thoroughly ventilated.

On November 22nd, 1918, a further General Order was issued by the Board, cited as "The Public Health (Influenza) Regulations (No. 2), 1918."

In this the Regulations shall apply and have effect with respect to every place for cinematograph exhibition, subject to the following provisions :—

(1) Where in any district notice has been given to the proprietor or left at the office of a Cinematograph Exhibition that a public Elementary School in the district has been temporarily closed on account of the prevalence of Influenza, children shall not be admitted to that exhibition during the continuance of the closure of any such school.

(2) Article II. of the Regulations shall in relation to any place for cinematograph exhibition have effect with the substitution of the words "four hours" for the words "three hours."

There were 38 deaths from Influenza (these figures take no account of deaths from Pneumonia, in which Influenza was not also mentioned on the death certificate) giving a death-rate of 2·4 per 1000 of the estimated civilian population.

The following figures will show the deaths from Influenza during the weeks ending :—

March 23.	July 13.	July 20.	July 27.	Aug. 17.	Oct. 31.	Nov 9.
1	1	2	2	1	1	1
Nov. 16.	Nov. 23.	Nov. 30.	Dec. 7.	Dec. 21.	Dec. 31.	
5	14	6	2	1	1	

The following table shows the incidence of the disease in respect of age and sex :—

	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	Total
Males	1	2	1	3	5	1	13
Females ...	...	6	9	7	2	1	25
Totals ...	1	8	10	10	7	2	38

The distribution of the cases were as follows :—

North Ward 11, East Ward 16, West Ward 11.

The first wave of the epidemic commenced about the last week in June, and ended about the second week in August.

The second wave of the epidemic commenced the first week in November and ended about the third week in December.

Administrative action taken : All Schools in the district were closed for periods as indicated :—3rd July to the 12th July inclusive, and again from the 26th July to the 2nd August, with the exception of St. Mary's C.E. School, which closed from the 26th July to the 9th of August, all dates inclusive. The second closure was arranged to run conjointly with the school holiday (which was three weeks in each, except St. Mary's C.E. School, which was two weeks), consequently each school in the district was closed from the 26th July to August 23rd inclusive.

During the second wave of the epidemic all schools in the district were closed during the periods stated, dates inclusive, November 12th to November 22nd, November 25th to December 7th, and December 9th to December 20th. All Sunday Schools were voluntarily closed during the epidemic.

Notices were served on the proprietors of Cinematograph Exhibitions, reminding them of their obligation under the Public Health (Influenza) Regulations (No. 2), 1918. The Regulations were strictly observed.

From personal observation, the incubation stage of Influenza seems to be of short duration, probably from 24 to 48 hours. The period of infectivity was most noticeable during the febrile stage. The disease spread through direct contact, and that one attack had little, if any, preventable influence over a second attack, since many of those attacked during the second wave had suffered during the first wave.

The symptoms in the majority of cases were fairly constant—fever, severe backache, frontal headache, general malaise, and in many cases, bleeding from the nose, especially so in children.

The principal complication being Pneumonia or Broncho-Pneumonia, the patient often expectorating dark rusty sputum, before any physical signs of consolidation or dullness in the lungs could be detected.

Malaria.

In August, 1917, the Board issued a Memorandum on Indigenous Cases of Malaria.

In this Memorandum it stated :—

(1) The return to England of large numbers of men who have had Malaria in the Eastern Campaign involves the presence among certain military populations, and to some extent among the civilian population generally of persons who carry in their blood the parasite of Malaria. The parasite is transmitted from man to man by means of the bite of the female anopheline mosquito.

(2) In order to facilitate the diagnosis of such cases of fever, the Local Government Board have made arrangements whereby specimens of blood will be examined and reported upon free of charge, &c.

No case of Indigenous Malaria in the district has come to my notice, but in accordance with A.C.I., No. 293, par. 4, dated 19th March, 1918, many cases of men returning on sick furlough to the district have been notified.

These cases have been kept under observation.

Pneumonia.

There were 28 deaths certified from Pneumonia (all forms), giving a death-rate of 1·8 per 1000 of the estimated civil population.

The Board's Medical Officer, in a Memorandum on Pneumonia, draws attention to the high national mortality from this cause, which in 1911 was equal to 71·3 per 1000 deaths from all causes.

With the object of securing better control over and means of treatment of certain epidemic diseases the Board have issued a General Order—"The Public Health (Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, &c.) Regulations, 1919," which makes the diseases compulsorily notifiable as from 1st March, 1919.

Other Orders, Circulars, Memorandums and Reports issued by the Local Government Board :—

(1) General Order "Public Health (Notification of Infectious Disease) Regulations, 1918," prescribes one uniform certificate for all notifiable diseases, instead of separate forms for certain diseases.

(2) General Order "The Public Health (Acute Encephalitis Lethargica and Acute Polio-Encephalitis) Regulations, 1918," which make these diseases compulsorily notifiable for one year as from the 1st January, 1919.

(3) Report of an Enquiry into the above disease (Encephalitis Lethargica).

(4) Circular and Memorandum on Measures for the Prevention of Lousiness and Itch.

The following are particulars of the Sanitary Circumstances of the district, which also comprises the Sanitary Inspector's (Mr. Brocklehurst) Report.

Alteration of Privy Middens, &c., to Water Closets.

The following table will show the yearly progress in this direction for the past eight years :—

Years	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
Privy Closets abolished	265	196	190	139	29	—	3	—
Fresh Water Closets substituted	271	202	193	133	29	—	—	—
Pail Closets abolished	—	—	7	15	—	—	—	—
Fresh Water Closets substituted	—	—	9	13	—	—	3	—
Waste Water Closets abolished.	—	—	25	13	10	—	—	—
Fresh Water Closets substituted	—	—	25	13	10	—	—	—
Privy Middens abolished... ..	153	109	105	67	17	—	—	—
Galvanized Dustbins substituted	280	195	196	132	31	—	—	—
Dry Aspits abolished	—	30	14	11	6	—	—	1
Galvanized Dustbins substituted	—	55	16	18	9	—	—	1

The following table will show the relative number in each Ward and the total for the district at the end of the year.

Ward.	Fresh Water Closets.	Waste Water Closets.	Latrine Closets	Pail Closets.	Privy Closets.	Dustbins.	Dry Aspits.	Privy Middens.	Cesspools.	Public and Private Urinals.
North ...	1407	348	65	3	85	1208	134	44	..	58
East.....	780	157	26	16	168	743	82	102	1	31
West	1798	163	56	10	87	1522	127	39	2	42
Total ...	3985	668	147	29	340	3473	343	185	3	131

Scavenging.

During the year 2241 loads were deposited at the following tips, viz.:—Windmill Lane and Vaudrey Lane. 604 loads were deposited in the Broomstair (disused) pit shaft, which was acquired by the Council in June. 29 loads were delivered to farmers for manural purposes.

House Refuse.

This is removed by the Council's employees, and carted to the tips enumerated before and dealt with in a similar manner. The system of disposal of the refuse of the district is unsatisfactory. The question of installing a destructor has had the Consideration of the Council.

The following statement, prepared by the Inspector of Nuisances, shows the amount of nightsoil and ashes removed during the year.

Dustbins emptied	...	102,752	...	1703 loads.
Dry ashpits emptied	..	1,597	}	...
Privy middens emptied		662		
Pails, 410. Cesspools, 47	41 loads.
Trades refuse	46 loads.

Total loads	...	2874
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Removed to Windmill tip	1142 loads.
do. Vaudrey tip	1099 loads.
do. Broomstair tip	604 loads.
do. Farmers	29 loads.

Total loads	...	2874
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During the year 101 Preliminary Notices, requiring the abatement of nuisances, have been served. Nuisances have been remedied at 75 houses and other premises.

Offensive Trades.

There are two tripe boilers, their places of business are clean and well kept.

Foods.

MILK SUPPLY.

The number of persons registered as Cowkeepers, or Parveyors of Milk, is shown as under :

Ward.	Cowkeepers and Purveyors.	Cowkeepers only.	Purveyors of milk.	Total.
North . . .	3	—	11	14
East . . .	11	3	8	22
West . . .	6	1	11	18
Farmers from outside districts			4	4
Totals ...	20	4	34	58

Copy of Sanitary Inspector's Report on "Miller's Pride Flour."

I have to report that on Monday, the 2nd November, 1918, I was informed by the Hyde Sanitary Inspector that a number of poisoning cases had been reported in their district and had been traced to the use of "Miller's Pride" Self-raising Flour, and that probably the same kind of flour was being retailed in our district.

Upon making enquiries from several shopkeepers in the district I found most of them sold this particular brand of self-raising flour, and warned them not to sell any more of it until those who had issued it had collected the new stock which was suspected to have caused the trouble. At one shop in Ashton Road the shopkeeper reported eleven cases of serious illness. I have not heard of any further cases and believe, that now, all the suspected flour has been collected by the firm.

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order are in force in the district. Very frequent inspections of farm premises are made by the Sanitary Inspector. No samples of milk were taken.

OTHER FOODS.

The food supply generally, has been of a wholesome character.

During the year two boxes mackerel, and one box of herrings, six stones of oranges and onions have been seized as unfit for human food.

Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

No. of Houses Inspected	3
No. of Houses, the defects of which were remedied ...	3
No. of Houses unfit for human habitation	—

In the following tabulated statement will be seen the housing accommodation, with annual value under and over £16, the Ward distribution; also other buildings in the district :—

Ward.	Houses.		Total Houses.	Clubs.	Factories.	Workshops.	Churches and Chapels.	Schools.
	Under £16	Over £16						
North . . .	1181	387	1568	2	29	31	3	4
East	898	203	1101	1	13	11	3	4
West .. .	1001	748	1749	5	20	22	5	4
Total ...	3080	1338	4418	8	62	64	11	12

The following table gives the number of dwelling-houses completed and certified fit for occupation during the years :—

Years	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
Numbers ...	70	7	63	57	92	19	4	Nil.	Nil.

There is a deficiency of housing accommodation generally throughout the district. The Council have undertaken to erect 200 houses in connection with their Housing Scheme, and it is anticipated that the work will be undertaken at an early date.

Factories and Workshops Act, 1901.

OUTWORKERS' LISTS. Section 107.

Thirty-one Lists have been received from employers, giving the names and addresses of 391 outworkers.

Meat Inspection.

During the year six carcasses cows, three carcasses pigs, two carcasses sheep, together with offal, and 7,456 lbs. of frozen beef have been seized as unsound and unfit for human food.

The work of meat inspection has been greatly facilitated, in that all killing has been done at the slaughterhouse occupied by the Denton and Haughton Co-operative Society, Ltd., Amelia Street, Denton.

Prevalence of and Control over Acute Infectious Diseases.

There were 205 cases of infectious diseases notified, viz. : Scarlet Fever 25, Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) 11, Enteric Fever 3, Erysipelas 8, Measles 133, Ophthalmia Neonatorum 1, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 14, Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 10.

Hospital Accommodation.

The Council pay a retaining fee for six beds in the Hyde Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital. Two beds are for Smallpox, and four beds for other cases than Smallpox. Cases were removed to hospital as follows :—Enteric Fever two cases, Diphtheria one case, Scarlet Fever one case, Membranous Croup two cases.

Disinfection.

Rooms are disinfected by spraying the walls, floors, and ceilings with a solution of formaldehyde, afterwards submitting the rooms to formaldehyde fumes.

Number of rooms disinfected 232.

The district is much in need of a Steam Disinfector.

Schools.

The sanitary condition of the Schools in the district is satisfactory. The Central School was converted into an Auxiliary Hospital for the treatment of wounded and sick soldiers. This did not interfere with the education of the children, since other suitable premises were found. The School being temporarily transferred to the Trinity Wesleyan Sunday School.

Diseases specially prevalent among school children :— Epidemic Influenza, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

All the Schools in the district were closed on account of Epidemic Influenza during the periods stated hereunder :—

July 3rd to July 12th, and all Schools from July 26th to August 2nd (except St. Mary's C.E. School, which was closed from July 26th to August 9th).

Again from November 12th to November 22nd, November 25th to December 7th, and from December 9th to December 20th.

The Upper Department of Russell Scott Memorial School was closed for three days, and the Infant Department of the same School for one day for thorough cleansing and disinfection, on account of an outbreak of Scarlet Fever in one class-room, which occurred in June.

All other infectious diseases occurring among school children have been dealt with on lines laid down in the "Memorandum on Closure and Exclusion from Schools, 1909," by exclusion of individual scholars.

With a view to prevent the spread of infectious diseases among school children, class-rooms have been frequently disinfected.

The following table will show the notifiable zymotic attacks in school children at the different Schools in the district :—

	Quarter Ending 31st March	Quarter Ending 30th June	Quarter Ending 30th September	Quarter Ending 31st December
Central Council School ...	2 Measles ... 1 Scarlet Fever	8 Measles ... 1 Enteric Fever	1 Scarlet Fever ... 1 Measles	1 Scarlet Fever
Christ Church C.E. School.	... ...	3 Measles ...	1 Measles ...	1 Scarlet Fever
Russell Scott Council School.	5 Measles ...	5 Scarlet Fever	4 Scarlet Fever	1 Scarlet Fever
St. Anne's C.E. School ...	... ...	4 Measles ...	1 Measles ...	1 Scarlet Fever
St. Mary's C.E. School ...	5 Measles ...	... ...	5 Measles ...	12 Measles
St. Mary's R.C. School ...	1 Measles ...	... ...	... ...	... ...
St. Lawrence C.E. School...	2 Measles ... 1 Scarlet Fever	2 Measles ...	3 Measles ...	1 Scarlet Fever 1 Measles

Fourteen cases of Measles, five Scarlet Fever, and one Diphtheria attended Schools outside the district. Fifty-seven cases of Measles, three Scarlet Fever, nine Diphtheria, one Erysipelas, and one Ophthalmia Neonatorum were in children under school age. Six Measles, one Scarlet Fever, seven Erysipelas, and two Enteric Fever were in adults.

